

Coalville Town Twinners on BBC TV

A group of Town Twinners from Coalville recently featured in a BBC1 television. The current affairs programme, 'Inside Out' was broadcast on Monday 21 November in the East Midlands.

The programme looked at big authorities such as Leicester City Council, who have official Civic visits to their twin towns and compared these with smaller twinning associations like Coalville and District Town Twinning Association, which are largely self-supporting and receive only a small grant from the local council.



We were asked to take part in the programme because we have a very active town twinning association which is run by local people for the benefit of the town on behalf of the Council. There are no Civic visits as such, everyone pays their own exchange costs, including any Councillors who take part.

In order to help pay for the programme of activities when the French are over here we have fund raising events throughout the year - and of course we put up our French guests in our own homes.

A BBC film crew accompanied the Coalville Twinners on their exchange visit to Romans-sur-Isere in August, filming interviews on the coach and in Romans. The crew were made very welcome and took part in the cultural visits and activities with the group and they seemed to be impressed with the strong friendships that had developed over the years.

Coalville is fortunate to be twinned with a beautiful historic town on the banks of the river Isere in southern France. Over the years there have been regular youth exchanges and exchanges with sports clubs and groups. The Association is actively encouraging other local groups and businesses to join in and benefit from contact with similar groups and organizations in Romans.

Our twin town also has active links with eight other towns in Europe and around the Mediterranean so there are many opportunities for young people to get involved in a wide range of projects and activities.

